

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

October 8, 1998

MINUTES

The Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education met for a special business meeting in the auditorium of James River High School, Chesterfield County, on Thursday, October 8, 1998 with the following members present:

Mr. Kirk Schroder, President
Senator J. Brandon Bell, Vice President
Mrs. Jennifer C. Byler
Mr. Mark C. Christie
Mrs. Susan Noble

Mr. Robert H. Patterson, Jr.
Mrs. Ruby W. Rogers
Senator John W. Russell
Mrs. Lil Tuttle

Mr. Paul D. Stapleton
Secretary and Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Mr. Schroder, president, presided and called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Russell gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Dr. James R. Schroeder, Chair, Chesterfield School Board, welcomed the State Board of Education members to Chesterfield County. Mr. Schroeder also thanked Mr. John Titus, Principal, James River High School and his staff for everything they did to prepare for the meeting. Mr. Schroeder also recognized members of the Chesterfield County School Board.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Schroder announced that Mrs. Kay Coles James resigned from the State Board of Education. Governor Gilmore appointed Mrs. Ruby Rogers, a teacher from Scott County, to succeed Mrs. James.

Mrs. Rogers was administered the oath of office by Mrs. Anne P. Petera, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Receipt of Report From and Recognition of the SOL Standard Setting Advisory Committee

In June of 1998, the Board appointed a Standard Setting Advisory Committee (SSAC) charged with the Authority to review all of the procedures and operations of the eight committees in the course of the standard setting recommendation process. Composed of thirty-two members, the SSAC was chaired by Dr. William C. Boshers, Jr., Superintendent of the Chesterfield County Public Schools.

Dr. Boshers presented members of the Standard Setting Advisory Committee to the Board of Education:

Dr. Idanna T. Aaron, Bristol City Schools Superintendent
Dr. Alan Arroyo, Regent University
Lucille Brown, former Richmond city Schools Superintendent
Dr. Billy K. Cannada, Hampton City Schools Superintendent
John W. L. Craig, II, Representing the Virginia School Boards Association
Lois Cumashot, President, Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers
Peter Decker, Decker, Cardon, and Thomas
Dr. Daniel A. Domenech, Fairfax County Schools Superintendent
James W. Dyke, Jr., McGuire Woods, Former Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Virginia
Dr. Thomas Hanisch, Apple Pie Ridge Elementary School, representing the Virginia Association of Elementary Principals
Cheri James, President, Virginia Education Association, representing the Virginia Education Association
John H. Kidd, Rockingham County Schools Superintendent
Janice G. Leslie, Principal, Herndon High School, representing the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals
George McVey, Virginia Council for Private Education
Mark D. Musick, President, Southern Regional Education Board
Karl G. O'Dell, Richmond County Schools Superintendent
Dr. John Oehler, Dean, School of Education, Virginia Commonwealth University
Dr. N. Andrew Overstreet, Danville City School Superintendent
Dr. William A. Owings, Accomack County Schools Superintendent
Dr. C. P. Penn, Jr., former Surry County Public Schools Superintendent
Patricia Phillips, President, Concerned Women for America
John Sanville, Fairfax Federation of Teachers, representing the Federation of Teachers
James B. Scott, Scott County Public Schools Superintendent
Dr. Eleanor Ross Smalley, Clarke County School Superintendent
Tom Smith, Director of Pupil Personnel, Fluvanna County Schools
Dr. Albert J. Williams, Richmond City Schools Superintendent
Dennis G. Witt, Halifax County Schools Superintendent
Robert Woltz, Vice President, External Affairs, Bell Atlantic
Consuella K. Woods, Principal, Sandusky Middle School, representing Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals
Alan Wurtzel, Circuit City Stores, former member of the Virginia Board of Education

Cheri P. Yecke, Deputy Secretary of Education, former member of the Virginia Board of Education

Dr. Boshier presented the *Standard of Learning Standard Setting Advisory Committee Report to the Virginia Board of Education* regarding their oversight of the activities of the eight SOL Standard Setting Committees.

Summary of SSAC Findings and Conclusions

1. It is the consensus of the SSAC that the standard setting procedures used by the eight Standard Setting Committees are sound and accepted professionally. The modified Angoff procedure, used by all of the committees except writing, is an accepted and appropriate method of standard setting. The Bookmark approach used by the writing committee was, in the view of the SSAC, an appropriate and accepted procedure for use with the SOL writing tests. Both procedures have been used in other states for standard setting in similar statewide testing programs.
2. It is the consensus of the SSAC that the members of the eight Standard Setting Committees possessed considerable experience in the content of the SOLs and in teaching the students of the Commonwealth, including those with special needs. On average, the participating educators had more than eighteen years teaching experience. All members of the eight SOL committees approached their tasks with a high level of professionalism and concern for the achievement of students across the Commonwealth.
3. Further, it is the consensus of the SSAC that the eight Standard Setting Committees were diverse and constituted appropriately. The SSAC reviewed the gender, race/ethnicity, and geographic composition of the eight Standard Setting Committees and believes that these committees represented a balance of education professionals from across the Commonwealth. Members of the eight committees were selected from a pool of over 900 nominations solicited from local school divisions, professional education organizations, and other constituent organizations.
4. It is the consensus of the SSAC that the procedures (Modified-Angoff and Bookmark) were followed by the eight committees as prescribed. After detailed discussion of each individual committee report, the SSAC concluded that the results from the eight Standard Setting Committees reflect the best judgement of the individuals serving on these committees and should be viewed by the State Board of Education as valued input, resulting from a structured and deliberate

process.

Resolution of Appreciation
Presented to
Dr. William C. Boshers, Jr.
Chair, Standard Setting Advisory Committee
Standards of Learning Testing Program

Whereas, Dr. William C. Boshers, Jr., served as the chairman of the Standard Setting Advisory Committee, established by the Board of Education for the purpose of advising the board on the procedures used by the eight Standard Setting Committees in recommending a range of passing scores for the Commonwealth's new Standards of Learning testing program; and

Whereas, under Dr. Boshers' guidance, this advisory committee faithfully followed rigorous technical procedures in order to fulfill its purpose of contributing significantly to actions that will help to ensure that our schools and our young people are prepared to meet the demands of the future; and

Whereas, Dr. Boshers, applying his finest measure of public service, has served with utmost integrity in providing valued professional advice to the Board of Education on behalf of public education in Virginia;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Board of Education express to Dr. Boshers their sincere appreciation for the diligent, articulate, and effective leadership shown in the interests of the young people of the Commonwealth.

Adopted This Eighth Day of October 1998

SAMPLE OF TEXT:
RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
STANDARD SETTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Resolution of Appreciation
Presented to
Mr. John Sanville
Member, Standard Setting Advisory Committee
Standards of Learning Testing Program

Whereas, Mr. John Sanville served as a member of the Standard Setting Advisory Committee, established by the Board of Education for the purpose of advising the board on the procedures used by the eight Standard Setting Committees in recommending a range of passing scores for the Commonwealth's new Standards of Learning testing program; and

Whereas, each member of this advisory committee faithfully followed rigorous technical procedures in order to fulfill its purpose of contributing significantly to actions that will help to ensure that our schools and our young people are

prepared to meet the demands of the future; and

Whereas, Mr. Sanville has served with utmost integrity in providing valued professional advice to the Board of Education on behalf of public education in Virginia;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Board of Education express to Mr. Sanville their appreciation for the diligent and effective service shown in the interests of the young people of the Commonwealth.

Adopted This Eighth Day of October 1998

Recognition of the Members of the Eight SOL Standard Setting Committees

In May of 1998, the Superintendent of Public Instruction asked for nominations from local superintendents and educational-related organizations for people to serve on eight SOL Standard Setting Committees. Over 900 nominations were received. From this nomination pool, committee members were selected to serve on the eight committees. During the summer, the eight committees met and followed a prescribed process to develop a recommendation to the Board of Education regarding the passing scores on the SOL tests. The recommendation to the Board from each committee consists of the product of their last ~~Around~~ of deliberations. The Board of Education wishes to honor the committee members for their participation in this important process.

SAMPLE OF TEXT:
RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO MEMBERS OF THE
EIGHT STANDARD SETTING COMMITTEES

Resolution of Appreciation
Presented to
Ms. Vivian Crump
Member, Standard Setting Committee
for Computer Technology
Standards of Learning Testing Program

Whereas, Ms. Vivian Crump served as a member of the Standard Setting Committee for Computer Technology, established by the Board of Education for the purpose of recommending a range of passing scores for the Commonwealth's new Standards of Learning testing program; and

Whereas, each member of this committee faithfully followed rigorous technical procedures in order to fulfill the goal of contributing significantly to actions that will help to ensure that our schools and our young people are prepared to meet the demands of the future; and

Whereas, the work of this committee has required the greatest measure of heart and intellect on behalf of academic excellence for Virginia's public schools;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Board of Education express to Ms. Crump their sincere appreciation for the diligent and effective service shown in the interests of the young people of this Commonwealth.

Adopted This Eighth Day of October 1998

SAMPLE OF TEXT:
RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRS OF THE
EIGHT STANDARD SETTING COMMITTEES

Resolution of Appreciation
Presented to
Dr. Idanna T. Aaron
Chair, Standard Setting Committee for Computer Technology
and Member, Standard Setting Advisory Committee

Whereas, Dr. Idanna T. Aaron served as the chair of the Standard Setting Committee for Computer Technology, established by the Board of Education for the purpose of recommending a range of passing scores for the Commonwealth's new Standards of Learning testing program; and

Whereas, under Dr. Aaron's leadership, this committee faithfully followed rigorous technical procedures in order to accomplish its goal, thereby contributing significantly to actions that will help to ensure that our schools and our young people are prepared for the demands for the future; and

Whereas, Dr. Aaron also served as a member of the Standard Setting Advisory Committee and provided valuable professional advice to the Board of Education on behalf of public education in Virginia;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Board of Education express to Dr. Aaron their sincere appreciation for the effective, articulate leadership shown in the interests of the young people of the Commonwealth.

Adopted This Eighth Day of October 1998

Grade 3 Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dr. N. Andrew Overstreet, Superintendent, Danville City Public Schools
Mary Biggs, Teacher, Montgomery County
Patricia Blagman, Teacher, Lancaster County
Hilda Bower, Teacher, Pulaski County
Camille Brown, Parent, PTA Representative
Michelle Farris, Teacher, New Kent County
Betty Guy, Teacher, Pittsylvania County
Aaron Jones, Teacher, Sussex County
Deborah Jones, Administrator, Fairfax County

Kristin Kress, Teacher, Madison County
Ann Mathis, Teacher, Essex County
Nancy Moga, Teacher, Alleghany Highlands
Vanessa Pendleton, Teacher, Louisa County
Tina Pitts, Teacher, Newport News City
Maryanne Roesch, Administrator, Fairfax County
Kathy Rowlands, Teacher, Wise County
Margaret Tunstall, Citizen, Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition
Susan Webster, Teacher, Fauquier County
Odessa Williams, Teacher, Fredericksburg City
Linda Zborofsky, Teacher, Prince William County

Grade 5 Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Karl G. O'Dell, Superintendent, Richmond County Public Schools
Hilde Lou Barnett, Teacher, Chesapeake City
Lilia Corgan, Teacher, Fairfax County
Robert Driscoll, Administrator, Isle of Wight County
Deborah Dupree, Teacher, Virginia Beach City
Jane Gaidos, Administrator, Shenandoah County
Lynn Hobson, Teacher, Henrico County
Sherman LaPrade, Principal, Charlotte County
Brian Maznevski, Teacher, Albemarle County
Jane Miller, Teacher, King George County
Betty Mullins, Teacher, Tazewell County
Adele Neuberg, Teacher, Falls Church
Bonnie Obenshain, Administrator, Culpeper County
Bertha Porter, Teacher, Petersburg City
Bess Price, Teacher, Northumberland County
Mark Robinson, Teacher, Galax City
Kathy Smith, Parent, PTA Representative
Yvonne Smith-Jones, Teacher, Hopewell City
Julia Taylor, Teacher, Mecklenburg County
Carmelita Tucker, Teacher, Arlington County
Vicky Wensel, Teacher, Patrick County

Computer Tech Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Idanna T. Aaron, Superintendent, Bristol City Public School
Vivian Crump, Administrator, Richmond City
Rebecca Dye, Teacher, Russell County
Lucinda Eye, Teacher, Waynesboro City
Larry Farmer, Teacher, Loudoun County
William Flaherty, Administrator, Hanover County
Dianne Mallory, Parent, PTA Representative
Wanda Miller, Teacher, Botetourt County
James Shiel, Teacher, Brunswick County
Georgianna Skinner, Administrator, Hampton City
Savina Stangil, Teacher, Fairfax County
Manorama Talaiver, Administrator, Chesterfield County

Writing Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: John H. Kidd, Superintendent, Rockingham County Public Schools
Bonnie Archer, Teacher, Loudoun County
Catherine Belter, Librarian, PTA Representative
Jim Cope, Institute of Higher Education, Virginia Association of Teachers of English
Rebecca Danello, Administrator, Stafford County
Lawrence Davis, Parent, PTA Representative
Brenda Fogle, Teacher, Northampton County
Patricia Graham, Administrator, Wise County
Kranulett Hunter, Teacher, Arlington County
Judith Johnston, Principal, Chesterfield County
Mitzi Lail, Teacher, Lunenburg County
Renaë Marcom, Teacher, Waynesboro City
Charles Murrell, Teacher, Gloucester County
Cynthia Packett, Teacher, Richmond County
Marion Ransom, Administrator, Portsmouth City
Wilcox Raymond, Teacher, Greensville County
Theresa Redd, Principal, Town of West Point
Susie Ross, Teacher, Franklin County
Judy Self, Administrator, Salem City
Angela Wilson, Administrator, Amelia County
Jamelle Wilson, Administrator, Hanover County

Mathematics Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dennis G. Witt, Superintendent, Halifax County Public Schools
James Bagby, Administrator, Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition
Pershing Berry, Teacher, Amherst County
Charyl Bowe, Teacher, Franklin City
Wanda Elliott, Teacher, Fluvanna County
Anne Fary, Teacher, Gloucester County
Jenny Fields, Teacher, Russell County
Nancy Hicks, Teacher, Brunswick County
Vickie Inge, Administrator, Stafford County
Otis Langford, Parent, PTA Representative
Patrick Lintner, Teacher, Harrisonburg City
Nancy Mader, Teacher, Staunton City
Ronald Metzger, Teacher, Town of West Point
Beth Moody, Teacher, Montgomery County
Linda Nuckols, Teacher, Prince William County
Liz Pohl, Teacher, Frederick County
Edna Ford-Powell, Teacher, Surry County
Sandra Takis, Teacher, Arlington County
Denise Walston, Teacher, Norfolk City
Clysta Walters, Teacher, Orange County

Science Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Albert J. Williams, Superintendent, Richmond City Public Schools
Sheila Austin, Teacher, Gloucester County
Gail Bosiger, Principal, Halifax County
Dana Bowen, Teacher, Newport News City

Kristine Campesi, Teacher, Stafford County
Delores Dalton, Administrator, Fauquier County
Don Grimes, Teacher, Shenandoah County
Jackie Hackney, Teacher, Russell County
Melanie Haimes-Bartolf, Teacher, Henrico County
Louise Hicks, Teacher, Fairfax County
Carolyn Holder, Teacher, Montgomery County
Barbara Jacobs, Teacher, Fauquier County
Cynthia Kelley, Teacher, Nelson County
David McElroy, Sr., Teacher, Charles City County
Robert Plaskett, Teacher, Caroline County
Pam Pulver, Teacher, Southampton County
Anne Stowe, Teacher, Clarke County
Michael Terry, Teacher, Charlottesville
Joan Tichacek, Teacher, Amherst County
Barbara Waldeck, Teacher, Bath County
Gloria Watts-Jenkins, Teacher, Hampton City
Victoria Zula, Teacher, Greene County

History Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dr. William A. Owings, Superintendent, Accomack County Public Schools
Glenn Bowman, Teacher, Fairfax County
Jeannine Brahaney, Teacher, Fairfax County
Frances Breedlove, Teacher, Giles County
Henry Buhl, Teacher, Harrisonburg City
Farron Cowles, Teacher, New Kent County
Sammy Fudge, Teacher, Hampton City
Judy Ganzert, Administrator, Henrico County
Rebecca Hayes, Teacher, Fauquier County
Maria Inacay, Teacher, Franklin City
Patty Kruszewski, Parent, PTA Representative
Regina Moore, Teacher, Manassas City
Carolyn Puckett, Teacher, Russell County
Williams Ricks, Teacher, Sussex County
Kim Robinson, Teacher, Carroll County
Kay Ruffner, Teacher, Charlottesville City
Shawn Sandifer, Teacher, Lunenburg City
Sue Seay, Teacher, Fluvanna County
Mae Titus, Teacher, Danville City
Thomas Woodall, Administrator, Loudoun County
David Wymer, Administrator, Roanoke County

English Standard Setting Committee Members

Committee Chairperson: Dr. Eleanor Ross Smalley, Superintendent, Clarke County Public Schools
Sharyn Billings, Teacher, Staunton City
Janice Bolling, Teacher, Wise County
Nina Greene, Teacher, Prince George County
Rita Hartless, Teacher, Amherst County
Sharron Horner, Teacher, Nottoway County
Mary Ingram, Teacher, Westmoreland County

Christy Jones, Teacher, Charlotte County
Paul Lankford, Teacher, Virginia Beach City
Barbara Leibbrandt, Administrator, Fairfax County
Kathleen Mainhart, Teacher, Northampton County
Mary McCain, Administrator, Richmond City
Geraldine Odom, Teacher, Suffolk City
James Porterfield, Teacher, Winchester City
Frances Prince, Teacher, Newport News City
Katherine Ralston, Teacher, Highland County
Gab Roberts, Parent, PTA Representative
Karen Thompson, Teacher, Williamsburg City
Paul Watlington, Teacher, Fairfax County

Consideration of Establishing a Standing SOL Test Advisory Committee

Mr. Christie made a motion for the Board to authorize the president to appoint an advisory committee on the SOL testing process. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Byler and carried unanimously.

Receipt of the Recommendations of the Eight SOL Standard Setting Committees

During the summer of 1998, the eight SOL Standard Setting Committees met for the purpose of following prescribed procedures to establish a recommended range of raw scores to be presented to the Board of Education for consideration as the Board establishes the passing scores for the SOL tests. Following is a chart showing the results of the Standards of Learning (SOL) Standard Setting Committees=summary of round three ranges:

SOL TEST AREA	Number of Items on the Test	Round Three Range PROFICIENT	Round Three Range ADVANCED
Grade 3			
English	45	11-32	34-42
Mathematics	50	13-36	33-48
History & Social Science	40	9-26	22-36
Science	40	12-30	30-37
Grade 5			
English: Reading	42	16-38	33-39
Literature & Research			
English: Writing	44	18-30	34-41
Mathematics	50	20-36	40-48
History & Social Science	40	14-27	29-38
Science	40	15-26	32-38
Computer/Technology	30	11-17	21-27
Grade 8			
English: Reading	42	14-27	28-37
Literature, & Research			
English: Writing	44	17-27	32-41

Mathematics	60	23-37	49-55
History & Social Science	50	18-37	36-46
Science	50	18-29	39-45
Computer/Technology	40	15-27	30-37
High School			
English: Reading Literature, & Research	42	14-24	22-37
English: Writing	54	22-37	41-51
Algebra I	50	16-30	38-45
Algebra II	50	19-34	42-46
Geometry	45	18-29	37-42
Earth Science	50	20-30	40-46
Biology	50	17-26	38-46
Chemistry	50	18-27	40-46
World History to 1000 A.D. + World Geography	61	21-33	48-60
World History from 1000 A.D. to the Present + World Geography	63	21-36	49-59
U. S. History	61	21-43	41-56

Public Hearings

Mr. Schroder announced the locations of public hearings for October 22, and the board members that would attend at each location. Mr. Schroder and Senator Russell, Fairfax Cchaired by Mr. Schroder; Mr. Christie, Mr. Patterson, and Mrs. Tuttle, Richmond Cchaired by Mrs. Tuttle; Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Byler, Virginia Beach Cchaired by Mrs. Byler; and Mrs. Rogers and Senator Bell, Wytheville Cchaired by Senator Bell.

Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be October 28 and 29. Mr. Schroder requested Board members to also keep October 30 open on their calendars.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schroder adjourned the meeting of the Virginia Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education at 8:00 p.m.

President

Secretary of the Board